

the uterus and adnexa. During a forcible and unsuccessful attempt at coitus she sustained a deep laceration of the left labium majus, which was torn away from the vaginal wall. The tear extended upward into the mons veneris and downward toward the rectum, while the finger could be introduced into the vaginal wound to the depth of two inches. Profuse parenchymatous bleeding was checked by pressure, and the patient was discharged at the end of four weeks cured, but still anæmic from the loss of blood. In Spaeth's case of recto-vaginal fistula (the sixth on record), the injury did not occur during the first coitus, but after several successful attempts had been made; it appeared to be due not to any disproportion between the introitus and the male organ, but to an abnormal thinness of the recto-vaginal septum associated with a broad, resistant perineum. He classifies the different injuries as follows: Deep tears of the hymen, with profuse hæmorrhage, tears of the clitoris, of the urethra (in cases of atresia hymenalis), vesico-vaginal fistula, laceration of the vaginal fornix (usually the posterior or lateral), and of the septum in a duplex vagina, to which should be added injuries of the vagina from premature coitus after perineorrhaphy.

Dr. ROBERT BARNES contributed a paper before the British Gynæcological Society with the title, *The Correlations of the Sexual Functions and Mental Disorders in Women*, which constitutes an exceedingly valuable and clear exposition of many important facts and theories in the joint domain of psychical and gynæcological medicine. Every practitioner is more or less familiar with the frequent association of aggravated disturbance of the nervous system and mental sphere with uterine or ovarian disease. The important consideration in such cases is to determine the mutual reactions of these two disorders—which occurred first; which is cause, which effect? The influence of heredity is to be borne in mind, but it is a gross mistake to consider it an essential factor. With sexual disorder as a cause of mental or nervous disturbance, determined or probable, is an appeal for relief made to gynæcology as often as it should be or in the language of Dr. Barnes himself: "Has this enlightening and beneficent surgery (gynæcological) been fairly applied to the study of physiology and pathology of women or to the relief of women secluded in lunatic asylums?" Reference is made to numerous clinical